Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

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AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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FOL VIENNA 04228 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BONN LONDON PARIS ROME MAY 8, 1978 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

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ROME/PARIS PASS COPY TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES

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TAGS: EIND, EAID, PORG, UNIDO

SUBJECT: UNIDO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO PALESTINIAN PEOPLE

 $REF: (A)\ STATE\ 116277\ (NOTAL); (B)\ STATE\ 107951\ (NOTAL)$

1. SUMMARY. INFORMATION FROM ISRAELI EMBASSY REPORTED REF(A) IS MISLEADING. FOLLOWING PLENARY DISCUSSION MAY 5

OF AGENDA ITEM ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, CHAIRMAN OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE (PC) ANNOUNCED THAT HE WOULD NOT SUM UP DISCUSSION BUT THAT "DRAFT CON-CLUSIONS" FOR INCLUSION IN PC REPORT WOULD BE CIRCULATED FOR CONSIDERATION BY REGIONAL GROUPS IN AN ATTEMPT TO REACH CONSENSUS. DRAFT CONCLUSIONS CIRCULATED EVENING OF MAY 5 REQUEST UNIDO TO COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH A NUMBER OF ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING THE COMMITTEE ON THE EXERCISE OF THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND THE PLO, IN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. ON MAY 8 GDR. ON BEHALF OF GROUP D. CIRCULATED ANOTHER DRAFT WHICH CALLS ON PC TO ENDORSE UNIDO'S ACTIVITIES TO DATE AND CONTAINS ADDITIONAL REFERENCE TO PLO AND IDENTI-FIES PLO AS "THE SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. INTER-GROUP CONTACTS ARE UNDER WAY. IF THERE SHOULD BE REASON TO VOTE ON THE ISSUE. VOTE WOULD PROBABLY NOT OCCUR UNTIL CLOSE TO END OF PC MEETING. END SUMMARY.

2. ON BASIS CONSULTATION WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES AND BARRY ON EVENING OF MAY 5, WHILE THEY WERE IN VIENNA, U.S. DEL IS TAKING POSITION THAT IT PREFERS UNIDO TO WORK THROUGH UNRWA AND CANNOT ACCEPT REFERENCES TO THE INALIENABLE RIGHTS COMMITTEE OR TO THE PLO. IN THE END, IF WE ARE ISOLATED, WE WOULD NOT BLOCK AN OTHERWISE UNANIMOUS CONSENSUS, BUT WOULD EXPRESS REGRET AND REITERATE OUR VIEWS.

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- 3. IN PLENARY DISCUSSION, U.S. MADE STATEMENT BASED ON REF B SAYING WE COULD NOT SUPPORT WAY IN WHICH UNIDO IS IMPLEMENTING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROPOSALS AND URGING UNIDO TO COORDINATE WITH AND CHANNEL THROUGH UNRWA. EEC MADE A JOINT STATEMENT WHICH QUOTED THE SECOND OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH OF THE TWO ECOSOC RESOLUTIONS RELATING TO ASSISTANCE TO THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE (RES. 2026 AND 2100) AND RECALLED THAT EEC MEMBERS HAD ABSTAINED ON THOSE RESOLUTIONS BECAUSE OF THOSE TWO PARAGRAPHS; STATEMENT DID NOT DEAL WITH SUBSTANCE OF UNIDO ACTIVITIES. ALL OTHER SPEAKERS, EXCEPT FOR ISRAEL, STRONGLY SUPPORTPLO; THESE SPEAKERS WERE USSR, HUNGARY, BULGARIA, QATAR, EGYPT, IRAQ, CHINA, NIGERIA, TUNISIA, DEMOCRATIC YEMEN, RUMANIA, GDR, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, AND PLO ITSELF.
- 4. GROUP B IS CURRENTLY CONSIDERING DRAFT CONCLUSIONS.
 GROUP HAS AGREED TO ARGUE THAT POLITICAL QUESTIONS SHOULD
 BE AVOIDED AND THAT PC SHOULD SIMPLY ASK THE EXECUTIVE
 DIRECTOR "TO ENSURE UNIDO'S COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF
 INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE UN PROGRAM PROGRAM AIMED
 PROVIDING APPROPRIATE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE PALES-

TINIAN PEOPLE." FEW THINK WE WILL BE SUCCESSFUL. SOME (UK, FRG) HAVE INDICATED THEIR OPPOSITION TO ENDORSING SECRETARIAT DOCUMENT (WHICH REPORTS REQUESTS OF PLO FOR ASSISTANCE AND UNIDO RESPONSE) AND MANY, PERHAPS ALL, WILL OBJECT TO IDENTIFYING PLO AS SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. MOST WOULD PREFER NO MENTION OF PLO BUT AS FAR AS U.S.DEL CAN DETERMINE, NONE WOULD HOLD OUT AGAINST A SIMPLE REFERENCE TO PLO IN A LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS WITH WHICH UNIDO SHOULD COOPERATE.

5. APPARENTLY THERE ARE MIXED VIEWS WITHIN G-77. SOME MEMBERS WITH WHICH WE HAVE SPOKEN (ARGENTINA, MEXICO) WISH ISSUE HAD NOT COME UP, BUT WILL NOT INTERVENE ACTIVELY.
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- 6. SITUATION IS FLUID BUT, IF NO CONSENSUS CAN BE REACHED, ISSUE MAY COME TO A VOTE BEFORE END OF PC MEETING, SCHEDULED FOR MAY 12. DEPENDING ON LANGUAGE OF "CONCLUSIONS" AT THAT TIME, THERE MAY BE A NUMBER OF ABSTENTIONS WITH EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE. U.S. WILL PROBABLY BE ALONE IF WE FIND IT NECESSARY TO VOTE "NO".
- 7. MOST WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRY DELEGATIONS IN GROUP B ARE IN REGULAR TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH THEIR CAPITALS. IF DEPARTMENT BELIEVES LOBBYING EFFORTS COULD PERSUADE ANY OF THEM TO CONSIDER JOINING US IN "NO" VOTE IF SITUATION WARRANTS INSTEAD OF ABSTAINING, BELIEVE EFFORT WOULD BE WORTHWHILE. GIVEN UNCERTAINTY REGARDING LANGUAGE THAT MAY BE PUT TO A VOTE, ANY LOBBYING WOULD HAVE TO BE IN TERMS OF UNDESIRABILITY OF PLO'S BEING IDENTIFIED AS SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIANS AND, BEYOND THAT, INAPPROPRIATENESS OF PLO'S BEING INVOLVED IN UNIDO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN THE FIELD OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT. LEARY UNQUOTE VANCE

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